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Mao's Agents Now Top Cuban Advisers

VICTOR RIESEL: INSIDE LABOR

From the underground in Havana, via the anti-Fidelista Cuban exiles in New York, comes word that Castro is working more closely with the professional Chinese revolutionists than with the more staid Communists from Moscow.

Peiping's special commissions have been urging Castro to turn his sugar fields and fruit plantations into Caribbean communes with the Sovietized Chinese as technical experts.

Castro's people, from the military to the trade unionists, have been wooed in a series of recent meetings in Peiping.

This hasn't exactly made the Soviet Praesidium ecstatic. The Russians want satellites—not partners. So they called on Comrade Leon, probably their top specialist on the Western Hemisphere since the now forgotten Constantine Gurnansky, Ambassador to Mexico.

"Leon" is the cover name for Sergei Kudryavtsev. He earned his rubles when, as First Secretary of the Soviet Legation in Ottawa, he organized the first atom spy ring. He now heads for Havana as Soviet Ambassador in charge of outmaneuvering the Chinese Communists and not as a master spy.

But it is later than Comrade Sergei thinks. The

Chinese already have had the Cuban Army Inspector General in Peiping for a month. Not long after, there arrived in the Chinese Communist capital one Jose Maria de la Aguilera, propaganda secretary of the Cuban Confederation of Labor.

He comes out of the bank workers union. The Chinese comrades romanced him. They listened to his speeches. They put him on the radio. They translated his attacks on the U.S. into English and broadcast the statements to Asia and Europe to frighten the vast English-speaking millions across two continents.

Aguilera's statements have not been recorded in the U.S. though by their words we know what is coming. Apparently the Castro propagandists hope to organize (Latin America) Indian and Negro groups into revolutionary cadres.

ONE OF THE first moves will be an attempt to destroy the influence of the anti-Communist AFL-CIO inside Latin America. This is vital to the Communist strategy. To succeed they must make it appear that only U.S. businessmen are fighting Castro's revolution. Thus the Peiping radio gave observers a hint of the anti-U.S. labor propaganda which will come out of Havana shortly.

On June 6, at 2:15 p.m. the Peiping broadcasters filled the air of two continents with the following quotes from Aguilera's speeches to a Communist labor conference there:

"He strongly condemned the AFL and CIO," said the Communist newscaster of Aguilera, "as trade union tools of North American imperialism.

"He condemned the AFL and CIO for boycotting Cuba's products, for sabotage and assassination and for even transporting U.S. troops to the beaches of Cuba... He strongly condemned U.S. imperialism for bombing sugar cane fields, burning towns and instigating sabotage against Cuba and trying to prevent Cuba's progress..."

Thus the Chinese Red radio attempted, through the propaganda chief of the Cuban Labor Federation, to give workers of the world the impression that war was raging in the Caribbean and that the Sovietized Chinese would soon come to the rescue of all Latin America.